

# Fun Facts About...



## Golda Meir

1898-1978



Meir was born in Kiev in 1898, but her family immigrated to the US in 1906. They settled in Milwaukee, WI, where Meir grew up.



Meir made aliyah in 1921 with her husband, Morris Myerson. Upon arrival in Israel, she changed her name to “Meir” to sound more “Israeli”.



In January 1948, Meir single handedly raised \$50 million from American donors to help cover the costs of the Israeli War of Independence.



Meir was one of only three women to sign Israel’s Declaration of Independence.



In 1948, a few days before the Declaration of Independence, Meir was sent into Jordan disguised as an Arab to persuade King Abdullah of Jordan not to attack Israel.



At the age of 71, Meir became Prime Minister of Israel in 1969. She was the first female to serve in this post, and remains the only one to this day.



Meir’s story has been the subject of many fictionalized portrayals. Most recently, she was portrayed in a Broadway play called *Golda’s Balcony*.

